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Waterford Town Meeting Minutes 2014

Brenda J. Bigonski

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2014 Town Meeting

February 28, 2014 & March 1, 2014

The meeting for the 2014 town meeting was called to order by the Town clerk, Brenda Bigonski at 1 p.m. The greeting and return was acknowledged.

Article 1: To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting. The town clerk asked for nominations. William Haynes was nominated and voted to serve as moderator to preside over the voting for Selectmen, assessor and overseer of the poor for three years. Randy Lessard was the only candidate for those positions.

School Board Director #17- Barry Patrie was the only candidate. Voting was held from 1- 6. There were 31 votes cast.

Randy Lessard received 28 votes

Barry Patrie received 28 votes

There were two write-in votes, one each for Viola McAllister and John Martin. One was blank.

The meeting was adjourned until 9 a.m. Saturday March 1, 2014 to finish the business portion of the town meeting.

William Haynes appointed H. Sawin Millett to serve as deputy moderator. The meeting started at 9 a.m with Mr. Millett reading the results of the voting.

Article 3: It was voted to charge the rate of **(7%) interest** on taxes paid after December 1, 2014.

Article 4: It was voted to authorize the Selectmen to transfer surplus in some budget accounts to liquidate overdrafts in other budget accounts.

Article 5: It was voted to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the town for non-payment of taxes thereon, on such terms as they deem advisable and to execute quit-claim deeds for such property.

Article 6: The Town voted to buy the tax collector's and treasurer's bond.

Article 7: It was voted to authorize the Selectmen to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12ths of the budgeted amount of the 2014 annual budget during the period from January 1, 2015 to the March, 2015 town meeting.

Article 8: It was voted to authorize the Selectmen to make final determination regarding the opening and closing of roads to winter maintenance pursuant to 23 MRSA section 2953.

Article 9: It was voted to authorize the Selectmen to dispose of town-owned assets with a value of \$10,000 or less under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

Article 10: It was vote to allow the Town to accept uncommitted monies.

Article 11: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$5,567** for the enforcement of State and local animal control ordinances. The amount includes the fee paid to Harvest Hill Animal Shelter.

Article 12: It was voted to appropriate the sum of **\$1,000** from carry over from 2013 for support of the appeals board.

Article 13: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$4,500** for abatements on taxes for the ensuing year.

Article 14: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$15,000** for the 1% discount on taxes paid within thirty (30 days) days of commitment.

Article 15: It was voted to appropriate **\$4,500** from the carryover from 2013 for expenses related to a tax anticipation note.

Article 16: It was voted to raise from taxes **\$2,500** and appropriate **\$1,500** from the carryover from 2013 for updating the tax maps. Total **\$4,000**

Article 17: It was voted to raise from taxes **\$19,850** and appropriate the sum of **\$12,200** from the revaluation fund for certified assessor, John Bell to update property valuations in preparation of a 2015 revaluation and will be updating the tax cards for 2013. Total **\$32,050**

Article 18: It was voted to raise and appropriate (\$0) for a professional evaluation at a later date.

Article 19: It was voted to raise and appropriate (\$0) for updating the tax cards.

Article 20: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$1,000** for the cemetery sexton for the ensuing year.

Article 21: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$550** for general maintenance and the repair and upkeep of veterans and non-veterans gravestones in the Bisbeetown cemetery for the ensuing year.

Article 22: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$4,300** for general maintenance, repair and upkeep of veterans and non-veterans in Elm Vale Cemetery for the ensuing year.

Article 23: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$750** for general maintenance, repair and upkeep of veterans and non-veterans gravestones in Pulpit Rock Cemetery for the ensuing year.

Article 24: It was voted to accept ownership and maintenance of the Woodlawn Cemetery, consisting of approximately 2.5 acres of land and structures thereon, together with approximately \$ 6,600 in cash, including cemetery and perpetual care trust funds to be held and expended as directed by applicable law and or existing perpetual care agreements; and authorized the Selectmen to execute any documents necessary to accomplish said transfer.

Article 25: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$1,300** for general maintenance, repair and upkeep of veterans and non-veterans gravestones in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Article 26: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$19,925** for the enforcement of State and municipal ordinances.

Article 27: It was voted to raise and appropriate (**\$0**) for updating the comprehensive plan for the ensuing year.

Article 28: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$1,500** for the emergency management director for the ensuring year.

Article 29: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$45,000** for support of the local fire department.

Article 30: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$7,500** for compensation on an annual basis the Waterford fire Chief and assistant Chiefs.

Article 31: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$3,120** for a 457B retirement account.

Article 32: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$70,977** to provide health insurance for the full-time employees of the Town.

Article 33: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$25,316** for FICA and medicare.

Article 34: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$112** and use **\$388** from the 2013 carryover, the total being **\$500.** for support of unemployment benefits for the ensuing year.

Article 35: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$2,350** and take **\$3,400** from the 2013 carryover, the total being **\$5,750.** for the support of general assistance for the ensuing year.

Article 36: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$1,000** for enforcement of State and local health ordinances for the ensuing year.

Article 37: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$26,024** for support of the Stoneham Rescue Service for the ensuing year.

Article 38: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$4,900** for the Lake Conservation and Lakes Environmental Association for the ensuing year.

Article 39: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$2,000** for the Waterford Historical Society for the ensuing year.

Article 40: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$16,000** for support of the Waterford Library Association for the ensuing year.

Article 41: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes a total of **\$7,350** for support of the following charitable organizations.

Androscoggin Home Care	\$ 1,252.00
Community Concepts Inc	2,933.00
Lake Region Sr. Services	425.00

Reach	450.00
Safe Voices	200.00
Senior Plus	187.00
Sweden Food Pantry	500.00
Tri-County Mental Health Services	1,128.00
Western Maine Transportation	100.00
Western Maine Veterans	<u>175.00</u>
	\$ 7,350.00

Article 42: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$224,589** for the care of Waterford's highways and bridges for the ensuing year.

Article 43: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$118,214** as a winter supplemental to provide for the care of the roads during the winter months.

Article 44: It was voted to raise and appropriate (0) for the winter roads emergency reserve account.

Article 45: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$175,000** and use \$25,000 from the carryover from 2013, totaling **\$200,000**. for tarring, surfacing and or resurfacing Waterford's roads for the ensuing year.

Article 46: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$10,000** for the special equipment account for the future purchases of equipment and voted to authorize the Selectmen to allocate money from the account should a piece of equipment becomes available during the year.

Article 47: It was voted to raise and appropriate (\$0) for future improvements to the municipal garage for the ensuing year.

Article 48: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$16,430** for insurances for the ensuing year.

Article 49: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$11,434** for support of the worker's compensation insurance for the ensuring year.

Article 50: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$2,650** for the town's informational website for the ensuring year.

Article 51: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$8,665** for fuel, utilities and maintenance for the town garage for the ensuing year.

Article 52: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$26,300** for fuel, utilities and maintenance for the municipal building for the ensuing year.

Article 53: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$33,389** for office expenses for the ensuing year.

Article 54: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$36,200** and take the carryover from 2013 of **\$3,800** totaling **\$40,000**. for legal expenses incurred by the Town for the ensuing year.

Article 55: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$88,180** for town officials' salaries and authorized the Selectmen to fix the salaries within this amount.

Article 56: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$4,950** for the care and maintenance of the Waterford Parks.

Article 57: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$6,546** and take **\$1,500** from the carryover from 2013 total being **\$8,046** for the planning board for the ensuing year.

Article 58: It was voted to raise (\$0) and appropriate **\$4,000** for the carryover from 2013 for hazardous trees for the ensuing year.

Article 59: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$11,921** and appropriate **\$2,500** from carryover from 2013, making total **\$14,421** for sports and recreation activities for the ensuing year.

Article 60: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$5,500** for street lights for the ensuing year.

Article 61: It was voted to raise from taxes **\$112,548** and appropriate **\$60,603** from Albany and Stoneham for the transfer station making the total **\$173.151** for the ensuing year.

Article 62: It was voted to raise (\$0) from surplus to help reduce the tax commitment.

Article 63: It was voted to appropriate **\$100,000** from the school investment account to help reduce the tax commitment for the schools.

Article 64: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$23,658** to repay the forestry account for the purchase of the new dump truck purchased in 2011.

Article 65: It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes \$6,347 for a salary increase for Town employees that the Selectmen will distribute as part of an annual performance and salary review.

Article 66: It was voted to accept \$20,000 received from Oxford County for mutual aid provided to the Town of Albany by the Waterford Fire Department and to deposit that money into a special equipment account for future department purchases and voted to authorize the Selectmen to allocate money from the account should a piece of equipment become available during the year.

Article 67: It was voted to authorize the Selectmen to accept donations and grants offered to the Town when they deem them to be in the Town's best interest and authorized the Selectmen to agree to terms and conditions that may be set as conditions of the grants or donations and to appropriate any accepted grants or donations for the purposes stipulated.

Moderator, H. Sawin Millett declared the meeting adjourned once he swore Randy Lessard into the offices of Selectmen, assessor and overseer of the poor. Meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Notes for the meeting

A plaque was presented to H. Sawin Millett Jr. for serving as moderator for over 30 years. Mr. Millett presided over his last meeting, retiring in 2014.

A certificate of appreciated was presented to Barry Patrie for serving on the Finance Committee. Mr. Patrie retired in 2014.

A certificate of appreciation was presented to Henry Plate for serving on the transfer station committee. Mr. Plate retired in 2013.

A certificate of appreciation was prepared for John O'Brien, who retired from the planning board retiring in 2013.

Randy Lessard expressed the Town's appreciation to all those who volunteer and work to serve the Town of Waterford. Without them many activities would not be possible.

Jane Traill from the Waterford Library presented the town with a copy of a card in memory of David McWain, the first settler of Waterford 1775.

Ms. Edwards spoke on behalf of Reach asking that they be funded the \$500. that was requested, Mr. Patrie spoke on the findings of the finance committee which cut all social services by 6%, however because they did not receive the information they were looking for, they recommended the **(o)** amount for Reach. thru an amendment added to the social services article, the Town voted to raise and appropriate \$450.

Ms. Carol Madsen spoke on behalf of the Sweden Food Pantry requesting \$500. It was explained that their requested had come in too late to make the warrant however the town, thru an amendment, added the \$500 into the request.

Kathleen McAllister thanked the Town for voting to take over Woodlawn Cemetery as their volunteers were getting old and very few in numbers.

Respectfully submitted Brenda J. Bigonski-Town Clerk